THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are considering various measures to improve the Indian Council of World Affairs and to restore its original standard.

Indian Sales to U.N. Agencies

4738. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government aware of certain reports that Indian sales to U.N. agencies is on the rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the items that have high demand for supply to U.N. agencies; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase Indian supplies to U.N.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). UN agencies purchases include a broad spectrum of items including computers, communications equipment, laser systems spare parts etc. The items which have primarily contributed to the rise in India's share of procurement include machine tools. pumps, agricultural implements, jeeps building material, hand tools, well-drilling rigs and medical and emergency relief items. Several measures have been taken by the Government to increase procurement from India. The National Small Industries Corporation has been designated as the nodal point for all enquiries from UN agencies. Further, an on-line computer link has been established with various UN agencies and a catalogue of shortlisted Indian suppliers has been prepared, which gfacilitates early matching of UN requirements and suppliers. Government has also taken the initiative in organising an Inter Agency Procurement Workshop to enhance interaction between Indian entrepreneurs and Chief Purchasing Officers of various UN agencies.

Short supply of Coal and Steel to Industries in Gujarat

4739. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial units of Gujarat are facing hard-ship due to allotment of less then half of the assessed capacity of box wagons for coal and steel; and

(b) if so, the percentage of the decline and the resons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA):(a) and (b). According to information given by Ministry of Railways, the pro-rata ceiling fixed by Railways for movement of coal under State Priority for Gujarat from January' 91 to July' 91' was 12229 Box Wagons. Out of this Railways received recommendation for 10,893 Box Wagos from the Government of Gujarat, and sanctioned 8221 Box Wagons for loading, amounting to 67% of the caeiling.

The shortfall of loading under State Priory movement is due to high priority movement of coal to core sectors like power, cement, etc.

Accorcing to Ministry of Railways, as of now there is no problem in allotment of wagons for movement of steel to industrial units in Gujarat.